

## Message Text

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62

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W

----- 066389

R 111545Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4169

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 757

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0757

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SCUL, PFOR, SF

SUBJECT: VORSTER SPEECH ON MAJOR CHANGES WITHIN NEXT  
TWELVE MONTHS

REF: A) STATE 245899 AND B) CAPE TOWN 728

1. THROUGH PRESS, SAG HAS CLARIFIED THAT WHEN VORSTER SPOKE  
OF MAJOR CHANGES WITHIN NEXT SIX TO TWELVE MONTHS DURING  
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HIS SPEECH AT NIGEL NOV 5 (REFTEL B), HE DID NOT RPT NOT

MEAN TO REFER TO SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. IN EDITORIAL NOV 8, AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPER DIE BURGER SAID THAT THOSE WHO IMPLIED VORSTER "VIRTUALLY DELIVERED AN ULTIMATUM TO HIMSELF TO CARRY OUT AN INTERNAL REVOLUTION WITHIN SIX MONTH" HAD PUT A "TOTALLY RIDICULOUS INTERPRETATION" ON WHAT VORSTER SAID. DIE BURGER EMPHASIZED THAT VORSTER WAS SPEAKING "OF SIX MONTHS AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF HIS SOUTHERN AFRICA POLITICS."

2. INITIAL REPORTS IN BOTH AFRIKAANS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS INTERPRETED VORSTER'S REMARKS AS APPLYING TO CHANGES TO SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNAL AS WELL AS TO ITS EXTERNAL POLICIES. ON NOV 11, CAPE TIMES EDITOR TONY HEARD TOLD POLCOUNSELOR THAT SAG WAS EXERCISED BY THIS INTERPRETATION AND QUICKLY GOT WORD TO AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPERS. HEARD SAID (AND WROTE IN EDITORIAL WHICH HAS APPEARED IN CAPE TIMES) THAT NATIONALIST SOURCES HAVE BEEN AT PAINS TO EMPHASIZE VORSTER WAS REFERRING TO "SURPRISING DEVELOPMENTS" IN SOUTH AFRICA'S RELATIONS WITH BLACK AFRICA.

3. IN VIEW OF OCTOBER 24 SPEECH BY SOUTH AFRICA'S PERMREP TO UN, PIK BOTHA, AND SPEECHES BY CABINET MINISTERS AT CAPE NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS NOVEMBER 6 -- ALL STRESSING NEED FOR NEW APPROACH TO RACE RELATIONS WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA--IT EASY TO UNDERSTAND WHY PRESS INTERPRETED VORSTER'S NIGEL SPEECH AS IT DID. MOREOVER, HIS REMARKS, AS REPORTED BY SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION (SAPA), ARE NOT CLEARLY RESTRICTED TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS. SAPA ACCOUNT READS AS FBLLOWS:

"REFERRING TO THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE WORLD AT PRESENT, MR. VORSTER SAID THE SITUATION WAS EXTREMELY DELICATE, AND THERE WERE MATTERS WHICH COULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC AT THIS STAGE. ONE COULD SPECULATE ABOUT THESE THINGS, HE SAID, BUT HE WISHED TO APPEAL TO ALL POLITICAL COMMENTATORS TO TAKE SOUTH AFRICA'S INTEREST INTO CONSIDERATON WHEN TALKING AND WRITING ABOUT THESE MATTERS."

4. SAPA THEN QUOTED VORSTER AS SAYING: "THERE ARE VERY GOOD REASONS FOR THIS REQUEST. I DO NOT ASK IT ON BEHALF OF MYSELF OR THE NATIONAL PARTY, BUT ON BEHALF OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOUTH AFRICA. THERE WILL ALWAYS BE THOSE WHO WILL PURPOSEFULLY SAY AND WRITE THINGS TO HARM SOUTH AFRICA. MAY APPEAL IS DIRECTED TO THEM. ALL I ASK THEM IS TO GIVE SOUTH AFRICA A CHANCE OF ABOUT SIX MONTHS. I DO NOT ASK MORE THAN THAT. IF SOUTH AFRICA IS GIVEN THAT CHANCE, THEY WILL BE SURPRISED AT WHERE THE COUNTRY WILL STAND IN SIX TO TWELVE MONTHS' TIME."

5. VORSTER DID NOT SPEAK FROM PREPARED TEXT, AND FULL  
ACCOUNT OF HIS NIGEL SPEECH NOT AVAILABLE IN CAPE TOWN.  
EMBASSY ATTEMPTING OBTAIN WHATEVER TEXT AVAILABLE FROM SAG.  
IN MEANTIME, WE WILL TRANSMIT FULL TEXT OF SAPA STORY BY  
SEPTTEL.  
HURD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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